

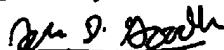
**REMARKS**

Favorable action is respectfully requested. No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this Preliminary Amendment; however, this paper should be considered such a request if necessary, and any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney at (515) 288-3667 to discuss the claims in an effort to reach a mutual agreement with respect to claim limitation in the present application if the Examiner does not find that all present claims should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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- kpa -

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/829,169 filed 4/9/2001

**AMENDMENT — VERSION WITH MARKINGS  
TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Claims**

**7. (Amended)**

A thin film resistor comprising:

a substrate;  
a metal film layer attached to the substrate;  
a termination attached on each end of the metal film; and  
a tantalum pentoxide layer directly overlaying and attaching to the metal film layer, the tantalum pentoxide layer providing a barrier to moisture, ~~the tantalum pentoxide layer not ever  
laid by an oxidation process.~~

**13. (Amended)**

A nickel-chromium alloy thin film resistor comprising:

a substrate;  
a nickel chromium alloy film layer attached to the substrate;  
a termination attached on each end of the nickel-chromium film; and  
a tantalum pentoxide layer directly overlaying and attaching to the nickel-chromium alloy film  
layer.